

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1019

By Casada

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Marnie Cotton upon
being named the Franklin Special School District
Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially recognize and commend our superlative educators who have given unreservedly of themselves to develop this state's most precious natural resource—our children; and

WHEREAS, one such extraordinary educator is Marnie Cotton, who was recently selected as the Teacher of the Year of the Franklin Special School District (FSSD); she will further represent the district at the regional competition and, if selected, at the state competition; and

WHEREAS, the good people of the Franklin community have recognized and appreciated Mrs. Cotton's excellence as an educator and role model for young people since she began teaching at Liberty Elementary School at its inception in 1990; and

WHEREAS, she received her bachelor's degree in elementary education from the University of Minnesota and, later, obtained a Master in Elementary Education degree from Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, Marnie Cotton began her illustrious teaching career in the FSSD eighteen years ago as a third-grade teacher and currently teaches a diverse, multicultural second-grade class that includes children of a variety of nationalities and cultural backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Cotton is an extremely patient and giving person who motivates her students to reach their full potential, perhaps the greatest of all teaching gifts; and

WHEREAS, Marnie Cotton was also recognized for her exceptional teaching abilities when she was chosen to be part of the first group of teachers to receive graduate credit as part of the English Language Learner training program designed by FSSD; and

WHEREAS, an innovative educator, Mrs. Cotton is Director of the FSSD Young Scholars Institute, a summer program she founded twenty years ago to offer enrichment to students, and for which she received a governor's commendation in recognition of her leadership; today, the program employs more than 100 teachers and serves more than 1,300 students in a two-week time period; and

WHEREAS, Marnie Cotton inspires all of us to imagine a better future by encouraging excellence in her students and is a never-ending source of motivation to those who know and cherish her; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her teaching, Marnie Cotton still finds time to lend her amazing talents to such notable causes as United Way, Habitat for Humanity, Room in the Inn, and Manna; and

WHEREAS, her many awards and accomplishments aside, Mrs. Cotton is most grateful for the love and support she receives from her husband, Gene, and their three children; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Cotton epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, highly regarded as a professional and friend, Marnie Cotton is the perfect example of a person totally committed to quality education and the highest ideals of public service and should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Marnie Cotton upon being named Teacher of the Year by the Franklin Special School District, applaud her for her meritorious service to the state of Tennessee, and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.